REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1 to 21 as presented with applicants' paper dated April 09, 2007, are currently pending in this case. Claims 9 and 17 stand allowed, Claims 6 to 8, 15 and 16 stand objected to, and Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 14 and 18 to 21 stand rejected.

More specifically, the Examiner reiterated the rejection of Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 14 and 18 to 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable in light of the teaching of Seitz et al. (WO 96/1825). The Examiner argued inter alia: 1) "Seitz suggests a compound of formula I where Ar2 is a phenyl that is substituted with 2 alkoxy groups, Al, A2 and A3 = H, m = 2, E is =CHRI where the position 1 on the moiety bares [sic] alkyl (Me, Et, Pr), G = bond, and Z = halogen, alkyl (Me, Et, Pr) or alkoxy (O-Me, O-Et, O-Pr). The substitution on the heteroaryl can be halogen, alkyl, etc. This compound taught by Seitz is equivalent to compound of instant formula I in the instant claims."

For the following reasons, and the reasons already presented in applicants' previous paper, ²⁾ applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's position that the particular genus of compounds which was delineated by the Examiner is taught or even suggested, i.e. rendered prima facie obvious, by the reference.

"In determining the propriety of the Patent Office case for obviousness in the first instance, it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the reference teachings would appear to be sufficient for one of ordinary skill in the relevant art having the reference before him to make the proposed substitution, combination, or other modification." The motivation to make the proposed substitution, combination, or other modification of the prior art must flow from some teaching in the art that suggests the desirability or incentive to make the combination which is needed to arrive at the claimed invention, the strongest rationale for combining prior art elements in the manner needed being a recognition, expressly or impliedly in the prior art or drawn from a convincing line of

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¹⁾ Final Office action page 2, lines 12 to 18.

²⁾ Cf. applicants' paper dated April 09, 2007, which is herein incorporated by reference.

³⁾ In re Lintner, 458 F.2d 1013, 1016, 173 USPO 560, 562 (CCPA 1972).

⁴⁾ Cf. In re Napier, 55 F.3d, 610, 613, 34 USPQ2d 1782, 1784 (Fed. Cir. 1995): "Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion or incentive supporting the combination."; In re Geiger, 815 F.2d 686, 688, 2 USPQ2d 1276, 1278 (Fed. Cir. 1987); In re Laskowski, 871 F.2d 115, 117, 10 USPQ2d 1397, 1399 (Fed. Cir. 1989): "I[the mere fact that the prior art could be so modified would not have made the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification", quoting In re Gordon, 733 F.2d 900, 902, 221 USPQ 1125, 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1984)

reasoning based on established scientific principles or legal precedent, that some advantage or expected beneficial result would have been produced by their combination.⁵⁾

The patentability of a claim to a specific compound or subgenus which is embraced by a prior art genus should be analyzed no differently than any other claim for purposes of 35 U.S.C. 103. "The section 103 requirement of unobviousness is no different in chemical cases than with respect to other categories of patentable inventions." In particular, the fact that a claimed species or subgenus is encompassed by a prior art genus is not sufficient by itself to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Again, the motivation to make the proposed combination of prior art elements must flow from some teaching in the art that suggests the desirability or incentive to make the combination which is needed to arrive at the claimed invention, the strongest rationale for doing so being a recognition that some advantage or expected beneficial result would have been produced by their combination. 5)

It is respectfully urged that the teaching of Seitz et al., when taken as a whole, fails to suggest that some advantage or expected beneficial result would be produced when making the particular combination of elements which is necessary to arrive at applicants' formula (I).

At the least, the teaching of *Seitz et al.* cannot be deemed sufficient for one of ordinary skill in the art having the reference before him to make the combination which is necessary for the grouping $-Ar^1-G-Z$ of the prior art formula to resemble the optionally fused 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring which optionally carries up to three substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_4 -alkyl, C_1-C_4 -haloalkoxy, C_1-C_4 -haloalkyl and C_1-C_4 -alkoxy which is represented by "Het" in applicants' formula (I).

A person having ordinary skill in the pertinent art who considered the teaching of Seitz et al. as a whole, would have been fully aware of the distinction between (a broad variety of) optional substituents of Ar^1 and the mandatory moiety -G-Z which particularly represents radicals in which G is taken by bridging groups such as oxygen and sulfur, or certain optionally substituted dimethylene (ethane-1,2-diyl) and ethene-1,2-diyl groups, or a group such as -CQ-Q-, $-CH_2-Q-$; $-Q-CH_2-$, $-CQ-Q-CH_2-$, $-Q-CQ-CH_2-$, -N-N-, $-S(O)_n-CH_2-$, $-C(R^7)=N-O-$, $-C(R^7)=N-O-CH_2-$, $-N(R^8)-CQ-$, $-Q-CQ-N(R^8)-$, $-N=C(R^7)-Q-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-N=C(R^7)-$

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⁵⁾ In re Sernaker, 702 F.2d 989, 994-95, 217 USPQ 1, 5-6 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

In re Papesch, 315 F.2d 381, 385, 137 USPO 43, 47 (CCPA 1963).

⁷⁾ In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 382, 29 USPQ2d 1550, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1994) ("The fact that a claimed compound may be encompassed by a disclosed generic formula does not by itself render that compound obvious."). See also In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 350, 21 USPQ2d 1941, 1943 (Fed. Cir. 1992); In re Deuel, 51 F.3d 1552, 1559, 34 USPQ2d 1210, 1215 (Fed. Cir. 1995).

 $-N(R^8)-CQ-Q-, \quad -CQ-N(R^8)-CQ-Q-, \quad -N(R^8)-CQ-Q-CH_2-, \quad -Q-C(R^7)=N-O- \quad or \quad -N(R^8-c(R^7)=N-O-CH_2-, \text{ and } Z \text{ in turn represents certain optionally substituted aromatic radicals.}$

The respective combination of a certain bridge –G– and an aromatic radical –Z as a bridge-head which is suggested by the reference is not only illustrated in the particular, the preferred, and the illustrative embodiments. The respective combination is equally found in the art which Seitz et al. reflect at the outset of their disclosure, namely EP 398 692, EP 468 775, DE 40 30 038 (also published as EP 477 631), and WO 92/13830. Applicants herewith enclose copies of the cover pages of the respective background art of Seitz et al.'s teaching for the Examiner's convenience. It is immediately apparent from the abstracts which are set forth on the respective cover pages that all of the background art compounds comprise a phenyl ring (corresponding to Ar¹ of Seitz et al.'s formula (1)), which carries a certain moiety which corresponds to the group –G–Z of Seitz et al.'s formula (1). The respective grouping is generally indicated to be in ortho-position to a radical corresponding to –E– of Seitz et al.'s formula. Notably, the majority of the references also indicate that the phenyl ring optionally carries additional, more conventional substituents.

Correspondingly, Seitz et al. mention various background art references in the section addressing the manufacture of their compounds (1). The compounds (1) are obtained according to Seitz et al. by reacting a carboxylic acid derivative with an amine, designated herein as (ii) and (iii), respectively:⁸⁾

Z— G— Ar¹— E— C— R
$$+$$
 H— N— $\begin{pmatrix} A^2 \\ A^3 \end{pmatrix}$ m

(ii)

(R = OH, halogen or alkoxy)

Z— G— Ar¹— E— C— N— $\begin{pmatrix} A^2 \\ C \end{pmatrix}$ Ar²

Al $\begin{pmatrix} A^3 \\ A^3 \end{pmatrix}$ m

The starting materials (ii) are stated to be known and/or obtainable in accordance with known procedures, and *Seitz et al.* specifically refer in this context to EP 178 826, EP 242 081, EP 382 375, EP 493 711, EP 432 503 and DE 39 38 054.⁹⁾ For the Examiner's convenience, applicants have also enclosed herewith copies of the cover sheets of these documents. The respective com-

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⁸⁾ E.g. page 4, indicated lines 1 to 9, and page 24, indicated line 23 et seq., of WO 96/17825.

⁹⁾ Cf. page 24, indicated lines 31 to 33, of WO 96/17825.

pounds are built up similar to the compounds which are mentioned in the art referenced at the outset of Seitz et al.'s teaching. Again, the majority of the abstracts which are set forth on the respective cover pages depict background art compounds which comprise a phenyl ring (corresponding to Ar' of Seitz et al.'s formula (1)), which carries a certain moiety which corresponds to the group—G-Z of Seitz et al.'s formula (1). The respective grouping is generally indicated to be in orthoposition to a radical corresponding to -E- of Seitz et al.'s formula. Again, the majority of the references also indicate that the phenyl ring may optionally carry additional, more conventional substituents.

A person having ordinary skill in the art to which the teaching of Seitz et al. pertains was, clearly, fully aware of the structural significance of the particular unit which corresponds to the group -G-Z of Seitz et al. Such a person was, therefore, directed by the reference to turn to a selection and combination of specifically those radicals mentioned in the definitions of -G- and Z of Seitz et al.'s formula which yield the requisite structural particularities, e.g., the combination of a bridging moiety (-G-) with an aromatic ring as the bridgehead (-z). In light of the significance of the particular structural unit, a person of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to make a selection and combination of radicals which yield in a compound according to Seitz et al.'s formula (1) which lacks the structural particularities of the -G-Z ortho-substituent.

The radicals which are allowed as substituents of the group "Het" of applicants' formula (I), namely halogen, C_1-C_4 -alkyl, C_1-C_4 -haloalkoxy, C_1-C_4 -haloalkyl and C_1-C_4 -alkoxy, clearly lack the structural particularities of the -G-Z ortho-substituent. As such, the situation here resembles the circumstances which were before the Federal Circuit in the decision in $In\ re\ Baird^{10}$) where a prior art reference disclosed a generic formula encompassing the claimed composition. The Court found that the reference did not provide the requisite motivation to select the claimed composition because the reference (a) disclosed a vast number of possibilities, and (b) gave as "preferred" and "optimum" examples which were different from and more complex than the claimed composition. In fact, the Court noted that the reference appeared to teach away from the selection of the claimed composition by focusing on the more complex examples.

Seitz et al. disclose a vast number of possibilities, in particular regarding the groups represented by -E-, -Ar¹-, -G-, and -Z, which allow for distinctly different structures of the moiety -E-Ar¹-G-Z of Seitz et al.'s formula. Additionally, the reference indicates preferred and particularly preferred examples of the moiety -E-Ar¹-G-Z, all of which are different from, and structurally by far more complex than, the radicals which are allowed as substituents of the group "Het"

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¹⁰⁾ In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 29 USPQ2d 1550 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

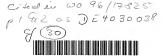
of applicants' formula (I), namely halogen, C_1 – C_4 -alkyl, C_1 – C_4 -haloalkoxy, C_1 – C_4 -haloalkyl and C_1 – C_4 -alkoxy. The teaching of *Seitz et al.* can, in light of the Court's holding in *In re Baird*, not be deemed to render applicants' compounds (I) prima facie obvious. In fact, under the respective holding of the Court, the teaching of *Seitz et al.* can be deemed to teach away from the selection of substituents such as halogen, C_1 – C_4 -alkyl, C_1 – C_4 -haloalkoxy, C_1 – C_4 -haloalkyl and C_1 – C_4 -alkoxy by focusing on the more complex examples.

In light of the foreegoing, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 14 and 18 to 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable in light of the teaching of *Seitz et al.*

Moreover, the foregoing shows that the subject matter which is defined in applicants' claims is patentable under the pertinent provisions of the Patent Act. The application is therefore deemed to be in good condition for allowance. Favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

However, in the event that the Examiner is of the opinion that further explanations or clarifications are necessary or desirable to expedite the proceedings in this matter, applicants would greatly appreciate it if the Examiner would grant their representative the opportunity address such matters in a personal interview.

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(1) Veröffentlichungsnummer: 0 477 631 A1

EUROPÄISCHE PATENTANMELDUNG

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- Ortho-substitulerte Phenylessigsäureamide.
- (97) Ortho-substituierte Phenylessigsäureamide I

I

(R¹ = H, Alkyl, Cycloalkyl, Alkenyl, Alkinyl, Phenylalkinyl, Alkoxyalkyl, Alkoxycarbonyl, Phenyl, Phenylalkyl, Phenylalkenyl oder Phenoxyalkyl, 5-0-6-jlledriger Heterocyclus mit 1-3 Heteroatomen, an den ein Benzolinig oder ein 5-0-6-jledriger Heterocyclus annelliert sein kann; R²,R² = H, Alkyl, H. (Nb, 4), Alkyl, Alkoxy; R²,P² = H, Alkyl und R² oder R² = Alkoxy; Y = 0, S, SO, SO, N = N, O-CO, CO-O, CO-O-C, Alkylen-oder Halogenalkylen-kette, Alkenylenkette, Alkylenoxykette, Carbonylalkylen- oder Alkylenoxykette W = Alkoximinogruppe, Alkoxymethylengruppe, Alkyliminomethylengruppe),

ausgenommen Verbindungen, bei denen R¹ Wasserstoff, Phenyl oder 2,2-Dimethyl-3-(2',2'-dichlorvinyl)-cyclopropyl, R² bis R² Wasserstoff, Y Carbonyloxymethylen und W Methoxymethylen oder Methylthiomethylen bedeuten.

Die Verbindungen I eignen sich als Fungizide und zur Bekämpfung von Schädlingen.

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ :	T	(11) International Publication Number:	WO 92/13830
C07C 251/60, A01N 37/50	A1	(43) International Publication Date:	20 August 1992 (20.08.92)

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(74) Agent: HOUGHTON, Malcolm, John; Imperial Chemical Industries plc, Group Patents Services Department, P.O. Box 6, Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 13 January 1992 (13.01.92) (22) International Filing Date: 1HD (GB).

(30) Priority data: 30 January 1991 (30.01.91) 9102038.8 GB 9117530.7 14 August 1991 (14.08.91)

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Published With international search report.

(54) Title: FUNGICIDES

(57) Abstract

Fungicidal compounds having formula (I) and stereoisomers thereof, wherein A is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, C1-4 alkyl, C1.4 alkoxy, C1.4 haloalkyl, C1.4 haloalkoxy, C1.4 alkylcarbonyl, C1.4 alkoxycarbonyl, phenoxy, nitro or cyano; R1 and R2, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl, optionally substituted heterocyclylalkyl, optionally substituted cycloalkylalkyl, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted aryloxyalkyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxyalkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, optionally substituted aryl, optionally susbtituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy, nitro, halo, cyano, -NR3R4, -CO2R3, -CONR3R4, -COR3, -S(O), R3 wherein n is 0. 1 or 2, (CH₂)_mPO(OR³)₂ wherein m is 0 or 1, or R¹ and R² join to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system; R³ and R⁴, which are the same or different, are hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted tuted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl, or R3 and R4 join to form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring; and R5 and R6 are independently hydrogen or C1.4 alkyl.





EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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(f) Int. Cl.5: C07C 251/48, A01N 37/50

(2) Date of filing: 24.07.91

(12)

- 30 Priority: 26.07.90 JP 200696/90
- 43 Date of publication of application : 29.01.92 Bulletin 92/05
- 64 Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI NL SE
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- (74) Representative: Hardisty, David Robert et al BOULT, WADE & TENNANT 27 Furnival Street London EC4A IPQ (GB)
- 64 Process for producing methoxylminoacetamide compounds and intermediates.
- (67) A compound of the formula [1]:

wherein X is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or halogen; \sim is any configuration of E-isomer, Z-isomer or a mixture thereof is produced by reacting a compound of the formula [II]

N~OCH 2

wherein X and ∞ are as defined above; W is -CN or -COOR; and R is a lower alkyl, with methylamine in the presence of methanol. The compound [I] is useful for an agricultural fungicide. An intermediate used for producing the compound [I] is also disclosed.



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

11) Publication number:

0 398 692 A2

(2) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

- (1) Application number: 90305303.1
- 2 Date of filing: 16.05.90

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- Representative: Hardisty, David Robert et al
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 London EC4A IPQ(GB)
- (a) Alkoxyiminoacetamide derivatives and their use as fungicides.
- (ii) A fungicidal composition for agricultural use, which comprises a compound of the formula:

EP 0 398 692 A2

(9) BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

- Offenlegungsschrift
- @ DE 3938054 A1



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(i) Int. Cl.5: C 07 C 327/22

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(54) Thiolcarbonsäureester

Thiolcarbonsaureester der allgemeinen Formel I,

(X Sauerstoff, Schwefel, Oxymethylen, Methylenoxy, Thiomethylen, Methylenthio, Ethylen, Ethenylen oder Ethinylen, R C₁-C₆-Alkyl, ein-, zwei- oder dreikerniges Aryl oder Heteroaryl, wobei Aryl und Heteroaryl folgende Reste R¹ tragen können:

R¹ Halogen, Cyano, Nitro, C₁-C₆-Alkyl, C₃-C₆-Cycloalkyl, C₁-C₆-Alkoxy, Trifluormethyl, ein- oder zweikerniges Aryloxy oder ein-, zwei- oder dreikerniges Aryl, wobei Aryloxy und Aryl ihrerseits durch die genannten Reste R¹ substituiert sein

ihre Herstellung und die Thiolcarbonsäureester enthaltende fungizide Mittel sowie ein entsprechendes Verfahren zur Bekämpfung von Schadpilzen.





EUROPÄISCHE PATENTANMELDUNG

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(a) Int. Cl.⁵ **C07C 327/22**, C07C 327 36, A01N 37/44

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- (4) Thiolcarbonsäureester und diese enthaltende Fungizide.
- Thiolcarbonsäureester der allgemeinen Formel I.

I

X Sauerstoff, Schwefel, Oxymethylen, Methylenoxy, Thiomethylen, Methylenthio, Ethylen, Ethenylen oder Ethinylen,

Z, V Schwefel oder Sauerstoff, wobei Z und Y nicht beide gleichzeitig Sauerstoff bedeuten.
R Alkyl, ein-, zwei- oder dreikemiges Aryl oder Heteroaryl, wobel Aryl und Heteroaryl substituiert sein können.
und diese Verbindungen enthaltende fundizide Mittel.





EUROPÄISCHE PATENTANMELDUNG

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(1) Anmeldenummer: 91121148.0

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Erfinder: Wolf, Bernd, Dr.

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Verfahren zur Herstellung von E-Oximethern von Phenylgiyoxylsäureestern.

© Verfahren zur Herstellung von E-Oximethern von Phenylglyoxylsäureestern der allgemeinen Formel I

1

wobei die Variablen die folgende Bedeutung haben:

X,Y Substituenten, ausgewählt aus einer Gruppe bestehend aus Halogen, C₁-C₄-Alkyt, C₁-C₄-Alkoxy oder Trifluormethyl;

m eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 4; n eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 3,

und wobei man

a) ein Phenol der allgemeinen Formel II



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

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(12)

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- Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IT LI LU NL SE
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- Representative: Houghton, Malcolm John et al Imperial Chemical Industries PLC Legal Department: Patents PO Box 6 Welwyn Garden City Herts, AL7 1HD(GB)

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- Fungicides.
- Compounds having the formula (i):

in which any two of K, L and M are nitrogen and the other is CE; X and Y are independently hydrogen, halogen, C; → alklyl, C; → cycloalkyl, C; → alkenyl, C; → alkrynyl, C; → benyl, benzyloxy, cyano, isocypon, isothicoyrando, nitro, NHFR, RHICHR*,N, NHCOR, NHCOR,R*, NHCORNER*, NHCORNER*, NHCORNER*, ORDER*, OR



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@ EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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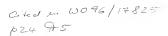
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- Applicant: IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC, Imperial Chemicel House Millbank, London SW1P 3JF (GB)
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- Date of publication of application: 21.10.87
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- ② Inventor: Anthony, Wildense Nargeret, 4 The Croft, Maddehand, Serkshire (GB), Inventor: Glough, John Martin, 7 Oppy Lane, Merlow, Inventor: Glough, John Martin, 7 Oppy Lane, Merlow, Inventor: DeFraine, Paul, 5 Sellabury Close, Wokingham, Berkahire (GB), Inventor: Godfrey, Christopher Richard Ayles, Inventor: Godfrey, Christopher Richard Ayles, Inventor: Annabel, 189 Wilde, Greet Hollands, Brackmall, Barkahire (GB), Inventor: Charles (GB), Inventor: Crowley, Petrick Jelf, 56 Ellis Road, Crowthorne Serfachire (GB), Inventor: Hulchings, Michael Gordon, 11 Belvadere Court, 51 Ann. 1 Flood, Praetwich, Manchester, (GB)
- Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH DE ES FR GB
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- Representative: Houghton, Malcolm John et el, Imperiel Chemical Industries PLC Legel Department: Petents PO Box 6, Welwyn Garden City Herts, AL7 1HD (GB)

- Fungicides.
- (5) Compounds of formula:



and stereoisomers thereof, wherein the substituents have the meaning given in claim 1; and metal complexes thereof. The compounds are useful mainly as fungicides but also as plant growth regulators and insecticides/nematocides.





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 AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE
- Applicant: IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC Imperial Chemical House Millbank London SW1P 3JF(GB)
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- (72) Inventor: Anthony, Vivienne Margarat 7 Engeyne Gardens Upminster Essex(GB)
- | Inventor: Godfrey, Christopher Richard Ayles | 159 Viking Greet Hollands | Bracknell Barkshire(GB)
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(54) Fungleides.

(5) Compounds of formula:

826 A2

and stereolsomers theraof, wherein X, Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or halogen atoms, or optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted aryloxy.

low, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted amino, optionally arrivato, acylamino, nitro, nitriti, —COR,R²—COR